



Immediate Release

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WYOMING SHEEP AND LAMB INVENTORY DOWN

On January 1, 2011, Wyoming operators owned 365,000 **sheep and lambs**, down 3 percent from January 1, 2010, according to Sofiya Cherni with the Wyoming Field Office of USDA NASS. The number of **breeding sheep and lambs** was 275,000 head and the number of **market sheep and lambs** on January 1 was 90,000 head.

Of the total breeding sheep, 220,000 head were **ewes one year old and older**, down 20,000 head from January 1, 2010. There were 8,000 **rams one year old and older**, down 1,000 head from last year. **Replacement lambs** for breeding totaled 47,000, down 4,000 head from 2010.

Of the 90,000 **market sheep and lambs**, 2,000 were **market sheep**, and 88,000 were **market lambs**. By weight groups, the number of market lambs was: under 65 pounds - 2,000 (2% of the total), 65 to 84 pounds - 5,000 (6%), 85 to 105 pounds - 45,000 (51%), and over 105 pounds - 36,000 (41%).

The **2010 lamb crop** in Wyoming at 230,000 head docked or branded is down 10 percent from the 2009 crop of 255,000.

Wyoming sheep produced 2.6 million pounds of **wool** from 285,000 sheep and lamb shorn during 2010 for a total value of \$4.5 million. Total value was up 38 percent from the previous year. The total production was down 7 percent from last year but the wool price was up 57 cents to 1.73 dollars per pound. Wyoming was third in the nation in wool production.

UNITED STATES: All **sheep and lamb inventory** in the United States on January 1, 2011, totaled 5.53 million head, down 2 percent from 2010.

Breeding sheep inventory decreased to 4.12 million head on January 1, 2011, down 2 percent from 4.19 million head on January 1, 2010. Ewes one year old and older, at 3.26 million head, were 2 percent below last year.

Market sheep and lambs on January 1, 2011, totaled 1.42 million head, down 1 percent from January 1, 2010. Market lambs comprised 94 percent of the total marketings. Twenty-seven percent were lambs under 65 pounds, 12 percent were 65 - 84 pounds, 21 percent were 85 - 105 pounds, and 34 percent were over 105 pounds. Market sheep comprised the remaining 6 percent of total marketings.

The **2010 lamb crop** of 3.60 million head, was down 2 percent from 2009. The 2010 lambing rate was 108 lambs per 100 ewes one year old and older on January 1, 2010, unchanged from 2009.

Shorn wool production in the United States during 2010 was 30.6 million pounds, down 1 percent from 2009. Sheep and lambs shorn totaled 4.22 million head, up slightly from 2009. The average price paid for wool sold in 2010 was \$1.15 per pound for a total value of 35.3 million dollars, up 45 percent from 24.3 million dollars in 2009.

ALL SHEEP AND LAMBS, JANUARY 1, 2010-11 WYOMING AND U.S.

Class	Wyoming			United States		
	2010	2011	2011 as % of 2010	2010	2011	2011 as % of 2010
	Thousand Head		Percent	Thousand Head		Percent
All Sheep and Lambs	375	365	97	5,620	5,530	98
Market Sheep and Lambs	75	90	120	1,435	1,415	99
Breeding Sheep	300	275	92	4,185	4,115	98
Ewes 1 yr. & Over	240	220	92	3,335	3,255	98
Rams 1 yr. & Over	9	8	89	195	190	97
Replacement Lambs	51	47	92	655	670	102

LAMB CROP 2009-10, WYOMING AND U.S.

Area	Breeding Ewes 1 Yr. & Over January 1		Lambs Saved Per 100 Ewes 1 Yr. & Over January 1		Lambs Saved 1/		
	2009	2010	2009	2010	2009	2010	2010 as % of 2009
	Thousand Head		Percent		Thousand Head		Percent
Wyoming	260	240	98	96	255	230	90
United States	3,405	3,335	108	108	3,690	3,600	98

1/Lamb crop defined as lambs born in the Eastern States and lambs docked or branded in the Western States.